

**METHOD FOR ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF A SERVICE PROPOSED BY A
SERVICE PROVIDER OR THE LIKE**

Abstract

Method for ensuring the availability of a service proposed by a
5 service provider in a data transmission system. The method
includes looking in a context table for a Uniform Resource
Locator (URL) defined in a service request in order to
determine the server able to provide the requested service,
appending a service availability request to the request before
10 sending the request to the server, appending a service
availability token to the reply provided by the server before
sending the reply to the proxy, removing the service
availability token from the reply upon reception thereof by the
proxy, and updating the context table in the proxy before
15 sending the reply to the user workstation by using information
contained in the service availability token.